NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway. -Socon SHINGLE. LUCY BUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 728

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery. --GROBAR CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—THE OLD SCHOOL OF MINSTEL ST, BALLADS, MUSICAL GREEN, &c., at the Pifth Avenue Open. House, Non. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth at

SAN PRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway, opposite BEYANTS' MINSTRULS, Mechanics' Halt, 472 Broad-way.—Dar Betast's New Segar Spencet.—Names Comical-tion, Burlingons, &c.—Lot of Paris Francais.

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooking, Brattopian Mi

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 418 Burnaway

BROOKLEN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.-BATERAN CO.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Friday, January 12, 1866.

THE NEWS.

OUR CLAIMS ON ENGLAND.

We publish in full this morning the important diplo matic correspondence between Minister Adams and Earl Clarendon, the British Foreign Minister, on the subject of the Shenandoah's ravages. In this correspondence at the circumstances leading to and arising out of the depre dations of the Anglo-rebei cruisers are discussed by Mr. Adams with exhaustive minutoness and great ability, and some new facts are brought forward with telling effect. Earl Clarendon's replies consist taxinly of the arguments advanced by his pre decessor (Earl Russell), and are chiefly remark the concluding sentences, in which he closes the correspondence, lest it should "introduce acrimony between this country and the United States," and sserts that "no armed vessel departed during the war from a British port to cruise against the commerce of the United States;" but that, on the contrary, the obligations of a neutral were "steadily and honestly discharged by the government."

In the Senate yesterday petitions were presented for negro suffrage, and asking that the Canadian Reciprocity treaty be not renewed. The bill giving the appointment of assistant assessors of internal revenue to the Secretary of the Treasury was taken up, and, after some dis cussion, passed. A bill regulating the extra pay of volunteer officers mustered out of service was presonted and ordered to be printed. Resolutions were adopted calling for information relative to negotiations in 1861 with the republican government of Mexico for the privilege to march Unit of States troops across Mexi-can territory from the Pacific to Arizona, in regard to the printing of official advertisements in the Wash-ington papers, accepting the invitation to participate in the Paris Universal Exhibition, and to print ten thousand copies of the diplomatic corresponding the bills to enlarge the powers of the Freedman reau and to guarantee the freedmen protection in their civil rights were reported from the Judiciary Commit The joint resolution offered on the previous day by Mr. Howe, of Wisconsin, to provide provis governments for the States which took par the rebellion, was then taken up, and Mr. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, proceeded to address the Senate at length in opposition to it, his speech being of a very able character, and consuming the remainder of the session. During the course of the day's proceedings, Mr. Sumper, in answer to a question relative to the dura when the Secr tary left Washington he expected to be

In the House of Representatives the credentials of South Carolina, were presented and referred to the Re-construction Committee. Resolutions were adopted re-questing the Secretary of the Navy to furnish a statethe cost of the Picladelphia Navy Yard since its stablishment and an estimate of the present value of the inquire into the expediency of annulling the act land of the Mormon Commonwealth among the adjacent Territories. A resolution was also adopted allowing the resolution Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, stated that the con mittee has now before it the recommendation of the President, with the endorsal of General Grant, for a perfecnational militia system. The Committee on Aupropria tions reported the Army Appropriation bill for the year onding June 30, 1867, and it was made the special order for Thursday of next week. A bill proposing an additional tax on cotton was impoduced and referred to the Ways and Muns Committee. The considera-tion of the bill to extend the voting privilege to the negroes to the Detrict of Columbia was the resemped from the previous day. The debate over it tition of the coarges by the republicans of the disloyalty of leading democrate during the war, Measte. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, and Farnsworth, of Illinois, advancing the accusations, and Messre, Megera, of New Jersey, and Marshall, of Illinois, denying them.

Secretary of War by the House of Representatives in had not been appointed to hear claims of loyal slave enlisted in the national army. The Secretary states that commissions were appointed in Delaware and Maryland but that appointments in the other States were sus pended by order of the President, owing to all the avail able funds being required at the time to prosecute the

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the State Senate yesterday the standing commit tees reported favorably on several bills which had been referred to them, including that for bringing Richmond county within the Metropolitan Police district. Notice were given of bills providing for the submission to the people of the question of a convention to revise the State constitution, for the tetter protection of seamen in this port, and to incorporate the New York Association of Exempt Firemen and the National Warehouse and Security Company. Bills were introduced, among severa others of minor interest, to incorporate the American Exploring and Mining Company and to extend to Jan 1, 1869, the terms of the Justice and Clerk of the Eighth Judicial district of this city. The resolution requesting the Croton Board to report on the practicability of

Broadway underground railroad was adopted.
Several measures of some importance were noticed in
the assembly. Among flows were hills to assembly.
Metropoidan Paid Fire Repartment set and the Excise
favo, to authorize the lean of a million and a fulf of
delians and the denation of one hundred thousand acres of land to the salirondack Palirond Company, to regulate freight and travel on the Long Island Relived, to confirm title to real estate acquired through allow convey ance, to increase the rates of legal adverticing and to re duce the f-ea of surregules and the expenses of adminis-tering on estates. A number of bills were introduced, whileb, however, have already been noticed in on columns. Those to p a ent gas companies charging rent on matter and non-residents holding market stands we among them. The resolution requesting our Congress teers who enlisted before 1863 was adopted.

MINCELLANGOUS

In our city of Mexico and Cordova letters published this morning a furnished a very interesting collection of intelligence from that portion of Maxican territory over which Maximillan claims to exercise dominion, including accounts of the progress of his government in the attempt to render its foundations stable, and further items regarding the colonisation operations of the ex-Southern robals of this country. Offic at regulations for the home

administration of the empire were made public in the beginning of last month. They prescribe the duties, attributes and emoluments of the various civil officers subject to the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in the different departments, prefectures, municipalities, &c., of the empire, lay down rning elections, describe the qualifications ors, and altogether present a very complete impe rial set of political regulations. Our Cordova correspon ent gives a description, which will well repay perus of his visit to the settlement near that city presided over by the rebei General Sterling Price, formerly of Missouri, by the rebel General Sterling Price, formerly of Missouri, but now a loyal subject of Maximilian I, who was found in the midst of about a dozen tents and as many unfinished houses, the germ of an expectant city "as large as Richmond or Now Orleans." This juvenile town, out of success of the imperial regime, is very anxious, of course, to have his Southern friends settle in Mexico, and pointed ut at great length to our correspondent the industry of seed to which the country offered.

to do so which the country offered.

Another War Department order for the muster out of additional troops has been issued. It includes over thirty regissents and about ten thousand men, belonging to the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illimois, Missouri; Kaussa, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Maine and the Territory of Washington.

A rumor has been prevalent at Fortress Monroe during the gast few days of a plot being in course of perfection there for the liberation of Jeff. Davis. Our correspondent describes the scheme, according to reports, to contemplate the arrival there of the intended rescuers singly, on board trading vessels, so as to ward of suspicion. The

authorities have consequently instituted searches of the craft in the harbor; but there have yet been no arrests made, as no person of a suspicious appearance has

Governor Swann, of Maryland, yesterday sub his message to the Legislature of that State, now convened in extra session. The present financial needs of vened in extra session. The present financial needs of the Commonwealth, growing out of the extraordinary demands produced by the rebellion, are given as the reason for calling the legislators together at present. The Governor approves the President's reconstruction policy; is gratified at the total extinction of slavery, of which he says he was an advocate, but opposes universal negro suffrage. The most interesting portions of his message are given in our Supplement sheet.

ets of interest from the recent report on our State canals of Canal Commissioner Skinner are given in a other portion of our present issue. Mr. Skinner alludes to suggestions which have been put forth to so enlarge the Erie canal as to make it a regular ship channel, s that grain and other produce may pass through it and proceed to Europe by sea in the same bottoms in which they leave Chicago and other Western lake ports. Though he does not favor the enterprise as immediately practicable, he thinks it worthy of consideration, and uggests the authorization by the Legislature of a commission to report on its feasibility, and a conference on the subject between the Governors of this and the West-

The busines community was shocked yesterday by the gaged in brokerage transactions for many years past, at No. 30 Broad street, had absconded to Europe, having previously drawn from the bank a sum of seventeen previously drawn from the bank a sum of seventeen thousand dollars, the property of the firm of which he was a member. The firm suspended payment yesterday morning; but it is stated that the interruption of business will only be temporary, the loss sustained affecting none but Carr's partners. Rumons found credence that Mr. Carr had field to Europe and foresteen his wife and family for the purposes of inplace a young actives, who left the for the purpose of joining a young actress, who left the country a few days previous; but as yet these atories res

on no positive foundation.

The Fenian Convention at Clinton Hall has concluded its proceedings. It has returned to its old name of Fenlan Brotherhood, with a Head Centre. Several clever debates and speeches characterized yesterday's

proceedings.

An immense gathering of our Irish citizens assembled last evening to do honor to the delegates to the Fenian Convention, which closed its proceedings yesterday. The demonstration was a most imposing one, the large hall of the Cooper Institute being jammed in every parimmediately after the doors were opened. A considerab number of the gentler sex were present, who vied with their attendants in manifestations of enthusiasm whenever Ireland's cause was hopefully portrayed. Among the delegates on the platform where Colonel O'Manony, Head Centre, and D. B. Killian, his Treasurer, There were numerous speakers, and the speeches were al eloquent and inspiriting. An excellent band of music

was also in attendance. On the last trip of the steamer Moses, Taylor, from Sar Francisco to San Juan, an innane Fenian shot two Englishmen who ventured to deny their having any Fenia proclivities. He was wounded himself, and jumped overboard. On being rescued and bauled or board he would have been instantly lynched had not some of the passengers interfered and held him over to be deal; with according to the law.

In the United States Court vesterday, before Commissioner Stilwell, the case of the United States against Captain Enoch M. Peabody, of the ship Neptune, was cruelty and assault and battery on the high seas upon a colored seaman of the name of Richards, Richards stated that almost during the entire voyage from Liver pool to New York he was beaten daily by the prisoner with an iron belaying pm. He presented the appearance of having being brotally treated, and his physician certifies that he is maimed for life, presence not being ready to go on with the examinat it was, on his application, adjourned until Menday nex ance in the sum of three thousand dollars. It is reported that several civil saits have been commenced against the captain by the crew and also by Richards.

Further indications of a shocking state of a Ta're hav-ing prevailed on board of Captain Peabody's Ship, the Neptune, during the fate passage from Lavermon to this port were furnished yesterday in an investigation before erener Gover of the case of Mrs. Mary A. Gilroy, one of the steerage passengers, the particulars of which appear in our Supplement sheet. In this latter affair, however the suilt is charged on the surgeon of the ship. Gilrov gave birth to a child on Tuesday last, while the vessel was lying off Sandy Hook, but received no atten-tion whatever, as alleged, and was left to lie alone and completely neglected. Between this neglect and th cold, the miserable woman was almost dead when on the following day the Neptune came up to her pier. coroner's jury, in their verdict, censure the ship's surgeon, Dr. Herrick, as well as the Emigration Commis

An action was yesterday tried in the Supreme Court, before Judge Barnard, by William Twomley, to recover from J. S. Underhill, a boiler manufacturer, of this city, damages haid at twenty thousand deliars. On the 24 of February, 1805, while plaintiff was engaged, with others, premises of defendant, he fractured his leg by the reaking of the truck. Judge Burnard granted suit, on the ground that direct negligence had not been

The case of Leonard Appleby against the Firemen's Fund Insurance Company, brought to recover a policy of insurance for ion thousand dollars, and which was tried before Judge Balcom in 1864, a verdict being given for plaintiff, was argued yesterday on exceptions before the general form of the Supreme Court. The decision was

which was an action to recover gold and carrency alleged to have been intrusted by the plaintiff to the defendant, and to have been converted by the latter to his own uses, a verdist was posterley rendered assuring to Mr. Hamon over six thousand dollars, the value of the gold

The jury in the case of Crilley against the Brooklyn Ferry Company yesterday gave a verdict in favor of the lauer. The plaintiff was father of a young man drowned by a collision between the ferrybeat Ne branks and a small row boat, in the East river, in 1864 In consequence of the funeral of Supervisor Pardy to day, the different brauches of the Supreme, Superior, Common Pleas and Mar no Course will not sit. In some of the courts business will be transacted at chambers.

Mr. John Austin Stevens, Jr., brother of Mrs. Strong one of the parties to the late Strong divorce suit, whose difficulty with Mr. Cram, the counsel of Mr. Strong, wa officed in yesterday's Hanato, appeared y merday at the Tombs Police Court, to accordance with the requirements of Justice Hogan's decision, and entered into a bond to keep the peace for six mentus. Before doing no, new-over, he made an affidavit regarding the tro-ble between bimeeif and Mr. Cram, which will be found in tall in our

applement of to-day. In this he denies receiving the etter which Mr. Cram says he wrote to him.

Joseph Matthews, who had been on trial for the previous two days in the Kings County Court of Oyer and Ferminer, for the murder of John Keevy on the 13th of eptember last, was yesterday found guilty of murder

with a recommendation for mercy.

The sixth of a series of lectures on the subject of the currency, indebtedness and resources of the nation, under the auspices of the Geographical and Statistical Society, was delivered last night at Clinton Hall, by Mr.

Coroner Lynch, of Brooklyn, yesterday concluded his inquest in the case of William H. Russ, the his inquest in the case of William H. Russ, the chief actor in the recent Clinton street shooting affair. Several witnesses were examined; but few new facts were elicited. Miss Daylon's statement was not taken, on account of her low physical condition. Her left side is paralyzed and her recovery is merely possible. The verdict of the jury was that "the deceased came to his death by inflammation of the membranes of the brain, superinduced by a pistol shot wound inflicted by his own hands."

Mr. Henry H. Dunne, superintendent of the New York and Schujtkill Coal Company, was murdered by three men about three miles from Pottsville, Pa., on Wednesday night. The murderers escaped.

A fire early yesterday morning in Singhamton destroyed the shoe store of S. Harding, the clothing store of Finch & Ca., and the drockery store of Hall & Co., on Court street, entailing a total loss of fifty-two thousand dellars, on which there was thirty-six thousand dellars.

sed at advancing prices. Gold was d

Important Rumors from Washington We have private intelligence from Washing on of great importance. It refers to rumors of the positive determination of the President to reconstruct his Cabinet, retaining probably but two of the present members.

We regard this information as important: but we confess we have long been prepared for it. The Cabinet of the late administration was war Cabinet. It had to deal with the rebellion with a hard hand, and its foreign policy was signalized more by advoitness than vigor and decision. Mr. Stanton, as Secretary of War, was the Hercules of the period. His labors in bringing out armies, in supplying and transporting them, in furnishing them with material, and in the performance of the other duties of his station, were ceaseless and untiring. He deserves credit for all this, and he will receive it from the country. But the war cloud has passed. The bright sunshine of peace is upon our land. The man who was a good war minister during a war cannot be expected to be a good peace minister during a peace. The enmities, hatreds and jeulousies, and the martinet practice inseparable from the position of Miaster of War, render the same man an unfit, bowever conscientious, counsellor for the Executive. Therefore we think the President will ccept Mr. Stanton's resignation of his portfolio, tendered, we learn, some time since.

In the office of Secretary of State Mr. Seward

did all that emergencies demanded. We were undergoing a fearful internal struggle. Foreign nations were covertly assisting the foe in money, men, armed ships and subsistence. It was necessary to keep these unfriendly Powers from recognizing the Southern confederacy. and Mr. Seward, with admirable diplomatic finesse, succeeded in holding them back. Although he never allowed the dignity of the nation to be infringed upon, yet he was obliged to temporize, conciliate or gently remonstrate whenever foreign governments threw out a menace or committed an act in violation of settled American principles. The necessity for this has passed away. The country does not now require any temporizing in its foreign policy. It demands the recognition of its position among the first Powers of the earth, and its foreign diplomacy must be cetorth be based upon that foundation. As a war Secretary of State Mr. Seward was shrewd, calculating, lucky. As a peace Secretary Mr. Seward will scarcely be qualified to cope with foreign governments in handling those great questions of American policy which will arise with the new era of our nation's existence. Therefore the President will be justified in accepting Mr. Seward's resignation as soon as that statesman returns from his tour in Southern climes, where he has gone to avoid present complications at

The Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Welles, deserves credit for not committing more blunders than he did, and, on the whole, considering the magnitude of the occasion, acquitted himself with respectability. He likewise was a war Cabinet officer, and, as the pavy on its present peace establishment is altogether different from the navy during the war, Mr. Welles can very well be spared from the circle of the President's counsellors.

Mr. Harlan, Secretary of the Interior, and Mr. Speed, Attorney General, are undoubtedly gentlemen of ability, but they are also identitled with the war policy of the late administrailon, and their places as advisers of the Executive can be filled by men more adapted to the present situation of the country.

Mr. McCulloch, Secretary of the Treasury, will undoubtedly be retained, no matter what Cabinet changes may be made. He is too valuable to the nation to be lost. Mr. Denison, Postmaster General, will also remain, as he is good officer, and is among the President's mest confidential triends.

The above comprises the rumors that reach us from Whehington. We hope they will be realized. A reconstruction of the Cabinet is demanded for many reasons. Among the most potent are: that it will harmonize the conflicting laterests which now impede the action of the general government; will break up the gress should pass such a law, and give the suffeuds that exist between members of the different departments; will facilitate the operations of the chief of our armies by removing one of the obstacles to their success; will bring the Executive and Congress together anon amicable terms, and, in short, be productive of incalculable benefit to our domestic interests and our "eneral foreign policy.

Reconstruction-The Real Force of the Constitutional Amendment.

Daniel Webster on a memorable occasion ompared a question that had been before Congress many days to a ship in a storm when the navigators had lost the knowledge of their osition, and which, driven hither and thither by this or that contrary wind, tossed on the turbulent waters, was fairly lost on the pathless waste when the calm came. He thought it necessary to do in Congress as the sailors did on the sea—stop and take the bearings, and find out where they were before they attempted to go on. Congress would act wisely to imitate that great example now. For certainly the paramount question of the day—the object above all others upon which Congress should act intelligently—the grand problem of the pacification of the country and the restoration of the Southern people to their natural condition under the law-is utterly lost in that body. No one in Congress knows where it is, or seems to have even glimmerings of the true position or state of the great question over which every Congressional jackdaw chatters and gabbles all day long. Blockheads from every point of the compass drive at the subject with-aut knowing how it stands, where it is or what they want to do with it. Now there is one ition to secure nigger suffrage, now ther, and there are motions before Congress for constitutional amendments of every possible nature and shade, and withal there does not appear to be a single man there with the mind to perceive that all this is froth and fury and mere waste of words. Yet the fact is that all his clamor and radical fuss is unnecessary.

It is unnecessary, because the whole point at issue is, in fact, definitely and positively settled and established by the constitutional mendment already ratified and accepted as part of the organic law. The recently adopted constitutional amendment is in two sections The first section abolishes slavery within the limits and jurisdiction of the United States and the second gives to Congress the power to make that abolition a practical fact, and to carry out the first section in all its force. The words of this second section are:--"Con gress shall have the power to enforce this amendment by appropriate legislation." Now a simple consideration of the circumstances under which these words became a part of the national compact will explain exactly what the words mean, and will show that they abundantly provide for all the necessities of the case. It will show that these words record in the constitution the results of a great war; that they are the change that the war has stamped upon that instrument-the measure of how much has been given up on the part of the South and acquired by the North. They are the constitutional guarantee that Congress shall have the power to arrange the new conditions of society in the South, especially so far as relates to the position of the negro race; that, in fact, which was the prime cause of all the trouble. The words, indeed, bear their interpretation upon their face, but the sideration of the legal aspects of the main facts of our recent history enforces and impresses their interpretation

The South made war on the government and attempted to destroy the country. This is not opinion. It was our Northern view of the war, and the fact that we prevailed establishes that it is for us the legal view of the war. By the fact of attempting the life of the nation the South put its own political existence in jeopardy, and, in fact, as determined by the result, orfelted that political existence. And this, to go aside from the argument, was the light in which the whole South saw the result at the first glance when the war was over. The South at the close of the war had no political rights that we could be required to respect, and the est it could claim for its position was that it stood, under the law of nations, as a con quered enemy. But the South could not justly complain of this, for it had itself invited the state that suspended all civil rights, and it must be content with the position in which it was way and we returned to the government of civil law. One of our asserted principles in the war was that the slaves should be made free. That was declared by proclamation, and, lest a proclamation made during war should not hold good for peace, sleps were taken to put that part of our Northern war platform into the constitution. Thus it was positively determined by the nation that the abolition of slavery should be a result of our victory, and that another result of our victory should be that Congress should have one more specific special power given to it-the power to so arrange Southern society as to carry out in letter and spirit the intention of the country. that the South should again stand on a level with the North only after its society was reorganized by a full revision of the position of

Force is implied in all organization of soclety, and just now the force is on our side It is to carry out the Northern will as expressed by that result of the war-the constitutional amendment. The Northern victor, having put down his enemy by force, offers the two propositions of the amendment as his will, as the condition on which his conquered enemy may have the foot removed from his breast and stand erect again, and even come fairly in as an equal. That is the real force of the constitutional amendment, and the section that gives Congress the power for "ap propriate legislation" is not less significant than that which formally abolishes slavery. Since the abolition of slavery restores all mer to the natural condition, Congress has to regulate the positions of each by the necessary laws. Let it now, therefore, simply pass a law regulat ing the suffrage, and thus determine what the real position of the negro is. The President has done his part fully and in-

the negro.

telligently. The only difficulty is with Congrees, which has been led or driven astray by be radicals. There is no necessary con between Congress and the President, and if Congress will carry out the amendment it will earry out the policy of immediate reconstruction, which is all the President desires. If Conrage to negroes who had fought in the war, to those who can read and write, who own property and are members of Christian churches, it vill meet the views of the country and it will settle the whole question. It can then order a new election in the South and send home the faembers that it new refuses to admit, and the new members could be in their places in two menths. For all dids Congress has the power; but the raticula, with Somner and Stevens at

their head, are making as much mischief as possible, and do not desire this settlement.

The Official Correspondence About A mass of papers have been comm

to the Senate by the State Department relative to Mexico. They bring the correspon between the Mexican Minister, Mr. R. Mr. Seward, and that with Mr. Bigelow, our Minister at Paris, and the French govern up to as late a period as last month. Every ase of the question as there exhibited we have anticipated in the columns of the HERALD This paper only published an account of the arrival here of a secret agent of Maximilian and the manœuvres of that gentleman and the French Minister to obtain a quasi recognition of the person called Emperor of Mexico. We the proceedings and the whole transact have about other matters relative Mexico. The fact was denied at time, sud other papers attempted to dis the statement. The official correspon now published shows we were correct. The application of this agent, through the French Minister, for an interview with the President "only to hand a complimentary or congratula-tory letter" to him from Maximilian, was the point at which the Mexican affair culminated. The curt reply of the President that he did not know of such a person as the Emperor Maximilian embraced the whole question and showed the fixed policy of this country. The whole correspondence and the position of the government to-day accord with the President's answer. We know only of one government of Mexico, and that is the republican government of which Mr. Romero is the representative. Maximilian is only a filibuster in the eyes of

this country. Being an archduke of Austria, and being placed where he is and kept there by French bayonets, does not change his character or alter the fact. William Walker, Colonel Kinney or Lonez was not more a fillhuster than this royal adventurer and usurper. If our government were so disposed it could send a force to aid President Juarez to drive out the fillbuster and France or any other Power would have no right to question us for doing so. If France chooses to lend Maximilian aid against the native and legitimate government, we certainly have as good or a better right to assist that government in sustaining itself. In fact, the ill-natured reply of the French Minister, Druyn de Lhuys, to Mr. Bigelow seems to admit that when he said he had nothing to do with Mexico. and that our redress for anything wrong there lay with Juarez or Maximilian. It may not be that our government will exercise this right of direct interposition in favor of the republican authorities of Mexico; but the time may come when our citizens will be allowed to volunteer for that purpose. Unless the imperial farce be soon concluded, and the actors in it return to Europe, such a contingency is quite probable. In that case diffy thousand or a hundred thousand veterans would flock to the Rio Grande in a very short time. Juarez is not without means here even now, and should our government raise its finger merely to permit aid being given to bim he could obtain all the resource he needs. It will be wise for the Emperor Napoleon and his protégé Maximilian to weigh well the consequences that may follow a prolonged usurpation in Mexico.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH JEFF. DAVIS AND THE OTHER RESEL PRISONERS !- The communications transmitted to Congress in answer to a resolution of that body, with regard to Jeff. Davis and the other prominent rebel prisoners, give us a clear idea of the case of these mea and the situation of the government with reference to it. The Secretary of War holds them as prisoners captured in war, and awaits the action of the proper authorities of the United States before he transfers them to the civil power or releases them, as the case may be That is all he has to do in the matter. Attor ney General Speed states the charges upon which they are held and the object in holding sees difficulties in the way, and he seems to hold the opinion that it would be better to let them go than to "violate the plain meaning of the constitution or infringe in the least particular the living spirit of that instrument.' Chief Justice Chase refuses to try them, because be cannot or will not hold a court within the limits of the rebel States, where only they can be tried. The President has performed h duty in the case, and now leaves it with Congress. It is a complicated case for that body to not upon. Constitutionally these prisoners cannot be tried by laws made after the offence was committed. According to that instrument they ought to be tried under the laws and forms existing. Yet we see what difficulties are in the way. Suppose the Southern States were fully restored, all the United States courts were performing their functions again, and these men were brought up for trial, is it certain they would be convicted? Is it not as likely they would be acquitted? Would it not be better, then, not to try them at all than to fall in a conviction? The effect of such a decision would be very disastrous, and the government ought to hesitate before taking the risk.

For these and other reasons we agree with General Cox, of Objo, that it would be better to let these rebeis go. Mercy is an attribute nations may use with good effect as well as in dividuals. Magnanimity will do more to restore the country and hold it together in the bonds of amity than vengeance. These men have no disposition, probably, to be trouble some hereafter, and if they should have they are utterly powerless to do harm. Let Congress, then, relieve itself, the President and the judiciary at once of this embarres estion. It is left to that body, which a take some action one way or the other. The shortest and wisest course is that advocated by Mr. Cox-to let them go.

THE GREATEST OPERATIC EXPENSION OF THE Age .- It will be seen by our Cincinnati correspondence and telegrams in another column that Manager Grau will this week complete his operatic tour in the West with his new company of Italian artists, and will return to New York in a day or two en route for Havana. Grau has certainly undertaken and carried out the greatest operatic expedition of the present age. With company numbering about eighty-five persons, and a respectable fortune in the lin costumes and properties, be has travelled through the principal cities of the West during a scason of over two months, in which time ho gave nearly seventy performances in Chicago, I do not know how much more money

St. Louis, Louisville and Cincinnati; in the latter city producing L'Africaine with immense success. In all this time, so full was the repertoire and so strong the company that only on one or two occas was an opera repeated, and then by the imperative demand of the public. The cost of this enterprise must have been immense. Most of the artists are entirely new to the American public, having been engaged by Grau in Europe last year. As our readers are awarehaving been kept acquainted with the progress of the Western opera through the me our daily telegraphic criticisms—the artists are all young, fresh and handsome, and have made a most favorable impression all over the West. Whether we shall have an opportunity of hearing them in New York, on their return from Havana, depends upon the chances of Impressario Grau's being able to obtain a theatre fit for the reception of his choice troupe in the coming spring.

THE SPIRIT OF WILKES BOOTH AT WORK.—In denying the report that Chief Justice Chase had signed a petition for the passion of Ketchum, the forger, the Tribune recently took occasion to say that the spirit of Wilkes Booth actuated all such canards. We see the same spirit manifested in a morning paper of this city, which charged, on Tuesday last, that the lamented President Lincoln and his wife had deliberately robbed the White House. The tone of the article to which we refer may be judged from the fact that it repeatedly refers to Mrs. Lincoln as "the bereaved beneficiary in a most insolent and impudent style, and speaks of "her (not always) winning ways." It charges that " for the one hundred thouse dollars appropriated in the last four years for alleged repairs and furniture for the House there is now actually nothing to show on the premises," and goes on to state that the government property was criminally taken away; that "ninety boxes" were furnished "to pack up the removed traps," and that "it required fifteen carts to remove the luggage from the White House."

Becoming bolder as he proceeds with his slanders, the spirit of Wilkes Booth says that "it is a notorious fact that the thirty thousand dollars lately appropriated to furnish the Executive mansion will nearly all be absorbed by the creditors of the persons who occupied that house ten months ago." As if this were not enough the univit of Wilkes Booth adds --"This family (Mr. Lincoln's), the head of which literally run on his 'honesty,' exhibited for four years that reckless disregard of expenditures which would have been positively dishonest, only that they, like all radical republicans. thought they had a life lease of the and that there was no end to the sudden influx of greenbacks that fairly flooded the White House." And then the spirit of Wilkes Booth proceeds to moralize upon "this example of the showy shouldiness of a suddenly raised family-honest, perhaps, but poor certainly:

nous effort to befoul the reputation of our martyred President and his afflicted family, an we ask the Grand Jury to take, prompt action in the matter and punish the paper that has thus disgraced American journalis and the American people. That paper is the organ of the Manhattan Club the president of which-Mr. John Buren-is certainly a gentleman. We ask him if the Manhattan Club is to permit these horrible libels to pass unnoticed, and if the members of that club are to continue to sustain by their money and their patronage a paper that calls the lamented Lincoln a third and his wife an accomplice? And we sak also, if such a publication can be made in this city of New York without some public manifestation of the reprobation and disgust of our citizens? The spirit of Wilkes Booth must indeed be very prevalent if so outrageous a violation of decency, morality, truth, propriety and the sanctities which surround the honored dead and the afflicted mourners is permitted to pass unrebuked and unpunished. Grand Jury take this case in hand at

THE CITY FINANCIAL BUDGET .- The financial

budget for the ensuing fiscal year has been issued. From this it appears that our citizens are to be taxed for the support of the city government and the payment of the interest on and redemption of the city debt about eight millions of dollars. The whole estimated expenditures for the year amount to ten millions; but there are some two millions revenue from various sources. We need not now stop to inquire why the revenue of this great city is so meagre when it has such wast resources, nor why among the items of expenditure we see the sum of fifty thousand dollars set down for advertising, the most of which goes to the support of partisan and private presses. We need not, in fact, go into any particulars to show the extravagance and waste in the public expenditures, for the subject is now threadbare, and every taxpayer knows it by heart. But we do care about one thing, and that the Legislature at Albany can attend to. We want a board of commissioners appointed by the Legislature, who shall exercise a supervisory and surveilling power over all our municipal affairs. We want this board to be composed of high-minded, honorable and responsible citizens, in whose integrity the people have implicit reliance. There will be no necessity for disturbing those in office who de their duty. Brennan makes a very good Comptroller. Let him alone. Cornell fills the o of Street Inspector acceptably. Let him alone. Tweed dances with infinite grace among all sorts of city affairs, from a Supervisor down and up, outside and in the middle. Let him alone. Boole, as City Inspector, does so well that he has aroused the enuity of rivals. Let him alone, But if all of these, or all of them, should been corrupt, or be found lany or income tent, let the commissioners have power tent, let the commissioners have power to turn either or the whole batch of them out of office, and supply their places with capable men. Let us have this commission, with the Mayor at the head of it, before another annual financial budget is issued, and then we may expect some practical municipal reforms.

A FINANCIAL CALL UPON BROTHER BEN .-Maury, the ex-rebel, writes to Ben Wood from Mexico:-- "You ought to have sent me money. It is hard to financier on nothing indefinitely. We know that Ben Wood obtained a check for twenty-five thousand dollars from Montreal while the rebel conspiracy there was in progress, and here is a chance for him to return some of it to the rebels through Maury. We